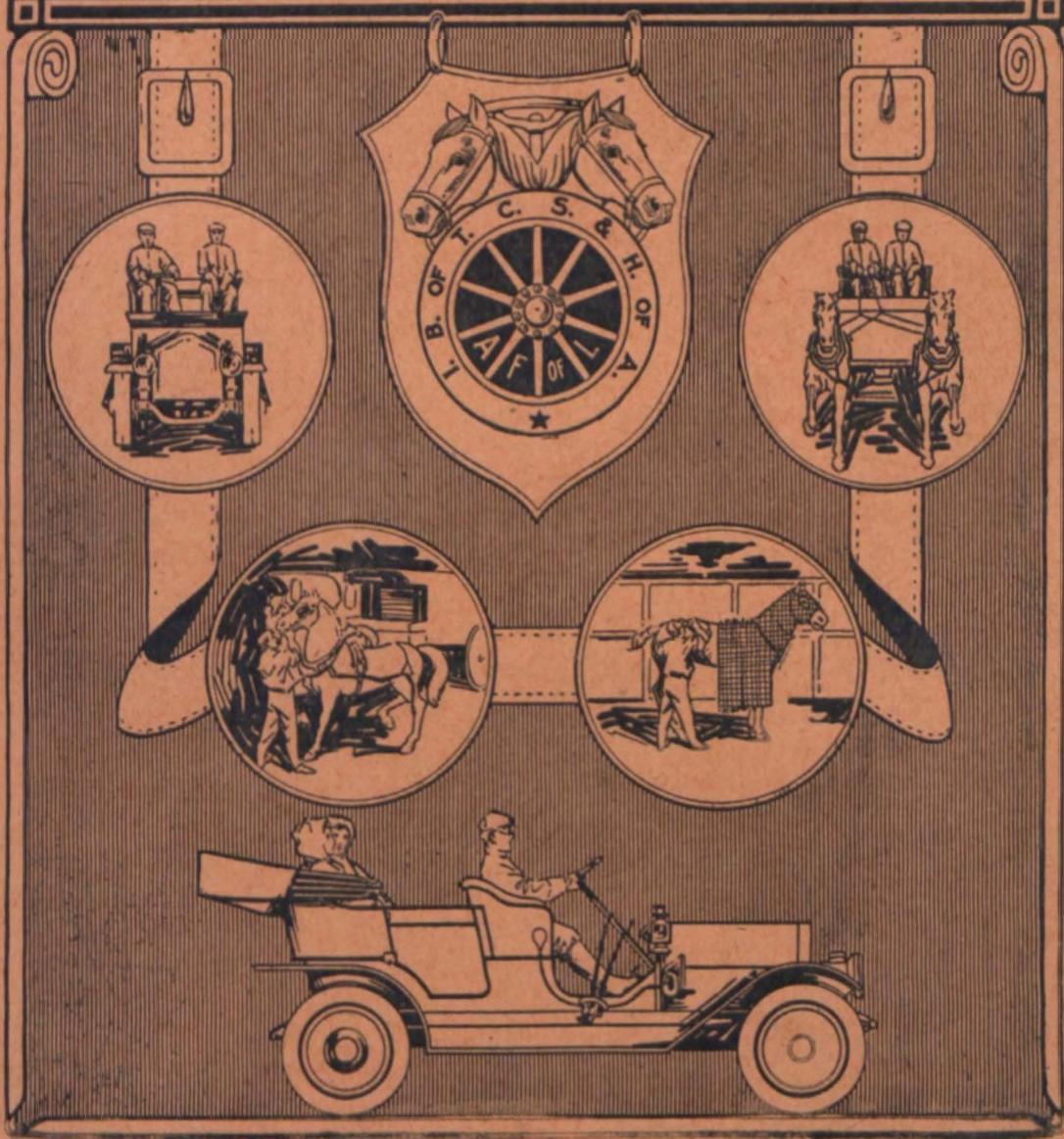


MAY, 1915

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE  
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
TEAMSTERS · CHAUFFEURS  
STABLEMEN AND HELPERS  
OF AMERICA



The war in Europe is still on. There are still thousands of human beings having their arms and legs shot off; thousands of children left fatherless; thousands of homes left dependent upon cold charity, all because civilization is advancing to such an extent that the several countries in industrial Europe are fighting for supremacy in commerce, and will continue to fight no matter how many million human carcasses have to be offered up as a sacrifice.

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Auditor Briggs is out and on his feet again, but is not in very good shape. However, he is attending to his duties and is full of hope that as the spring ripens into summer he will recover at least part of the energy and activeness that he lost as a result of his illness.

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Read carefully the proceedings of the General Executive Board. Space will not permit us to publish only a slight synopsis of what transpired. The meeting was important and many matters pertaining to the welfare of our organization were discussed, and its future destiny will be guarded to the best of the ability of each member of the Board.

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The jitney chauffeurs are still organizing. Rumor has it that the fever is dying out in the extreme western portion of our country, where this industry originated, and is spreading in the Middle West and in the East, where we notice active interest is being taken in the enterprise by the public-at-large, and considerable opposition is offered this institution by the street car employes, who feel that the jitney bus drivers or chauffeurs are a menace to their craft. Of course, the street car companies feel the same way about it.

— OFFICIAL MAGAZINE —  
**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
OF TEAMSTERS·CHAUFFEURS  
·STABLEMEN AND HELPERS·**



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**MEETING OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD IN INDIANAPOLIS, IND., APRIL 14, 1915.**

—Morning Session—

The meeting of the General Executive Board was called to order by President Tobin, all members present.

The General President stated that he had not intended to call a meeting of the General Executive Board until May 1, but owing to conditions that arose in Chicago as a result of the fact that Local No. 753, the Milk Wagon Drivers' Union, was unable to reach an agreement with their employers, who had obstinately refused to do anything toward granting the men any concessions, and had refused arbitration, he decided to call the meeting on this date, so that he might properly place before the Board the entire situation.

He stated that, believing that a strike of this local union, which is one of the largest connected with the International, might mean a depletion of the general treasury and perhaps set back the union for some time, that when such a matter of importance confronted the International organization the only way to thoroughly make the Board members understand the situation was to have them present at headquarters, where the entire phase of the situation could be gone into and

have a committee representing the Milk Wagon Drivers' Union present, and after hearing the case, then the Board members could decide for themselves what they believed would be best. He stated, however, that between the time of calling the meeting and the members of the Board arriving at headquarters, that he had visited Chicago and was in a position to report that an amicable adjustment had been reached, the employers granting a two weeks' vacation with full pay to all men in their employment on April 1.

He further made a general summary of conditions existing in the International Union covering the twelve months since the last Board meeting, from April 1, 1914, to April 1, 1915, showing that for these twelve months the General Office had received per capita tax on an average membership of 51,600. He also made a report of the financial condition of the International organization, also showed the number of charters issued and charters suspended. He also dwelt upon the industrial situation throughout the country, which has had a material effect on the general membership of our organization.

The General President's report and statement occupied the time of the Board for the entire morning session and the Board adjourned at 12:10 noon, to meet again at 2 o'clock.

#### —Afternoon Session—

April 14, 1915.

The Board reassembled at 2 o'clock. The first matter coming before the Board was a communication from Brother Stine of Fort Worth, Texas, asking that an organizer be placed in the State of Texas for the remainder of the year; that the time was ripe for organizing in that State. The Board discussed the matter and as it was shown by the general officers that

we had too many wage scales pending and several strikes threatened, that we could not comply with the request of Brother Stine at this time, and the matter was left in the hands of the General President and General Secretary-Treasurer for future action.

The General President made a report on the controversy between the Brewery Workers' International Union and our International organization, dealing with the history of the controversy since the original decision rendered at the Minneapolis convention of the American Federation of Labor down to the present time, explaining the action of the American Federation of Labor on the jurisdiction between both organizations, and then stated or related all about the agreement recently entered into between the International Brewery Workmen's Union and the International Brotherhood at headquarters subject to the approval of the General Executive Board. Copy of the agreement was submitted to the General Executive Board and by a unanimous vote the Board approved the action of the general officers and decided that at this time all local unions be instructed to abide by and respect said decision.

The General President also reported the action of the American Federation of Labor convention pertaining to the jurisdiction question between the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union, the Laundry Workers' International Union and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and Chauffeurs, also showing that the above-named organizations had decided not to comply with the decision of the American Federation of Labor. The General President stated that the matter would again come before the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor.

It was moved and seconded that all local unions endeavor to put into effect the decision of the convention of the American Federation of Labor, which is, that central bodies unseat all local unions of bakery workers in any city or town where drivers are held in said local unions by the Bakery Workers. Each member of the Board pledged himself to see to it that in his district this decision is carried out.

The appeal of Local Union No. 405, Carriage Drivers of St. Louis, from the action of the Joint Council, was next taken up. This is a case where an agreement had been brought about in St. Louis by the General President and entered into by both organizations—Local No. 405, Carriage Drivers, and Local No. 408, Chauffeurs—but which shortly after signing Local No. 405 violated. Charges were preferred by Local No. 408 against Local No. 405 for the violation of said agreement; the charges were tried by the Joint Council of St. Louis and Local No. 405 was found guilty and fined \$100.00. An appeal was taken by Local No. 405 from the action of the Joint Council and the \$100.00 fine was forwarded to the General Office. The Board, after hearing the evidence and reading all communications pertaining to the case, by unanimous vote sustained the action of the Joint Council and the General Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to return the \$100.00 fine to the Joint Council, to become the property of said council.

—Morning Session—

Thursday, April 15.

The meeting of the Board was called to order at 10 o'clock by President Tobin; all members present.

The first matter taken up by the General Executive Board was the case between Local No. 273, Furniture and Van Drivers, and Local

No. 274, Piano Movers of New York City, on a question of jurisdiction existing between the two local unions relative to the piano movers. The matter was referred to the General Executive Board by the Joint Council of New York City, where it had been under discussion for a long time and where they were unable to reach an agreement, as it seems that the question at issue dates back for years and the two local unions have all this time been wrangling over jurisdiction.

The General President received a communication containing an account of the entire dispute from Local No. 273, and Brother Dennis Pettit of Local No. 274 was in attendance at the Board meeting, representing his local union. The General Executive Board heard the entire controversy from the side of Local No. 274 through Brother Pettit, and the communication from Local No. 273, stating their side of the case, was read.

It seems that there are some piano movers who are holding membership in Local No. 273, Furniture and Van Drivers, and the Piano Movers, Local No. 274, insist that these men be transferred by Local No. 273 to their organization. It also seems that those men holding membership in Local No. 273 have been holding membership in that local for a number of years and that some of the employers of the members of Local No. 273 have both van teamsters and piano movers in their employment.

After the entire case had been discussed the General President notified Brother Pettit that sometime later on during the sessions of the Board the matter would be taken up again by the Board, a decision reached and a copy of the decision sent to each local union, and also a copy to the Joint Council of New York City.

Brother Briggs appeared before

the Board, at the request of the General President, to explain the conditions surrounding Local No. 390 of Jersey City, who are heavily in debt to the International for per capita tax and who seem to be going along in a good-for-nothing condition. The Board listened to Brother Briggs' explanation and he recommended that the charter of Local No. 390 be revoked and the members of the local union distributed between the other local unions in Jersey City.

The recommendation of Auditor Briggs was unanimously adopted by the Board.

Local No. 294 of Albany, N. Y., was also reported on by Auditor Briggs, and a recommendation was made by him that no local union of the International allow Brother Marks, who is a team owner, to hold membership in their local without the consent of the General Executive Board.

A motion was made and unanimously carried to adopt the recommendation.

We might add that Brother Marks is not now holding membership in any of our local unions, and the cause advanced by Auditor Briggs for the recommendation was because of his violation of the International laws and his inefficiency as a local secretary of No. 294.

The Board adjourned at 12 o'clock to meet again at 1:30 p. m.

#### —Afternoon Session—

The Board again met at 2 o'clock; all members present.

The communication from Local No. 313, Tacoma, Wash., was read to the Board wherein they asked for an organizer to work in their district. The matter was left in the hands of the General President and the General Secretary-Treasurer, to do what they could as soon as an opportunity presented itself, but the General President stated

that, owing to the fact that at the present time many wage scales were being presented to employers by our locals throughout the country and several strikes threatened, it would be impossible for him to send a man there as per the request of the local union. Vice-President Casey stated, however, that perhaps he would find an opportunity to visit that section of the country before very long.

The communication from the Joint Council of Stockton was read before the Board and referred to the General President for the purpose of answering same.

The matter between Locals No. 273 and No. 274 was again up before the Board, and the following decision was reached:

"The jurisdiction case between Local No. 273 and Local No. 274 was considered by the Board and it reached the following decision, which is binding on both parties:

"That in view of the fact that Local No. 273 now has an agreement running for a period of over four years with the Furniture and Van Team Owners' Association, Local No. 273 has absolute jurisdiction over the men employed by this association, and that Local No. 274 has jurisdiction over men working exclusively at hauling pianos employed by concerns who are not members of the Furniture and Van Team Owners' Association.

"It is further agreed by the Board that the men now working for the Horace Waters Company, who are members of Local No. 273 and who are hauling pianos exclusively, shall be turned over to Local No. 274, because of the fact that the Horace Waters Company are not now members of the Furniture and Van Team Owners' Association.

"It is understood, however, that the General Office shall see that the foregoing part of this decision is

observed and that both local unions, No. 273 and No. 274, shall abide by same under penalty of being disciplined by the International office.

"The Board further recommends for the consideration of both local unions, that in its judgment there can be no possible solution of this question permanently unless the wisdom of the membership of the unions can see the necessity of amalgamating both local unions. This is not, however, a mandatory order on the part of the General Executive Board.

"D. J. TOBIN,  
"General President.

"By order of the General Executive Board."

A communication received from Newark, N. J., was next read, which asked for a charter for a joint council in that district. The Board decided that in its judgment it was better not to issue a charter at this time until we see how the local unions in the district continue to act. After discussing the matter from every standpoint, the Board believes that the district is better off without a joint council charter. The Board also decided that it is optional with any local union in Newark to affiliate with the Joint Council of Jersey City, if they so desire, and believe that said affiliation with the New Jersey Joint Council will be of material benefit to the local unions in Newark.

This, however, is not a mandatory or compulsory order.

—Morning Session—

Friday, April 16.

The meeting was called to order by President Tobin at 10 o'clock a. m.; all members present.

Several communications were read which were sent in here by Christ Cline, secretary of the Trades and Labor Assembly of Kenton and Campbell counties, Kentucky, asking that the charter

of Local No. 119 of that district be re-issued. This was a case where the general office revoked the charter of Local Union No. 119 for the non-payment of its per capita tax, the local being in arrears for over six months' tax to the general office. This local is located across the river from Cincinnati. The representatives of the Joint Council of Cincinnati, Brothers Daly and Neimeier, appeared before the Board and stated that it was the wish of the Joint Council of that city that the matter stand as at present; that is, that the charter be not re-issued, as they believed it would be better for all local unions in Cincinnati. The General President explained the situation there and after the General Executive Board heard the entire discussion it was unanimously decided by the Board to endorse the action of district.

Brother Briggs dwelt upon the situation in Minneapolis and referred to the condition of the local unions there. Some of the local unions are in bad shape financially. There is a man whose name is Spielman, a volunteer organizer in the district, working as business agent for our local unions. This man never worked at our trade or calling and the local unions are paying him considerable money. It was decided by the Board that unless this man is eliminated as a paid officer or individual acting in any representative capacity for our local unions by the 1st of May, that the General President is instructed to proceed as he believes best in the matter.

The matter of Local Union No. 308 of Worcester, Mass., was brought before the Board by Auditor Briggs. This local union owes the International Union \$33.35 back tax for over two years. Brother Briggs claims that there is no reason why this local union should not pay this back tax and that he

believed it is simply a case of gross negligence on the part of the members. The matter was thoroughly discussed by the Board and President Tobin, and Vice-President Jennings made statements relative to conditions surrounding the district, and it was decided not to take any definite action relative to suspending the charter of this union until such time as Auditor Briggs and Organizer Gillespie again visits the district.

The condition surrounding Local No. 449 was related to the Board by the general officers, who stated that owing to the fact that the union was in a bad condition financially and owed per capita to this office for over six months, the charter was revoked; that there were several factions in the local union at this time, each faction applying for a charter. The general officers, however, refused to re-issue a charter to any one of the factions and had taken no action toward the issuance of a charter until such time as the Board would decide or instruct the general officers what to do. After discussing the whole situation for over two hours it was decided by the General Executive Board to issue no charter to any of the factions, but to allow the condition to remain as it is, and when things clear up there and the men who work at the market and commission house craft straighten up their affairs and act like real honest trade unionists, that a charter will be issued to them.

This was the unanimous action of the Board.

The Board adjourned to meet again at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

#### —Afternoon Session—

The Board reassembled at 2 o'clock; all members present.

Secretary Hughes brought up the matter pertaining to the Laundry Drivers of Indianapolis, showing the standing of the local and the

manner in which they do business, stating that there were only a few members belonging to the local and they never attended any meetings, and that the local was practically good for nothing to the members of the local or the International.

A motion was made and seconded that the charter of Local No. 339, Laundry Wagon Drivers, be revoked; that Local No. 240 be given jurisdiction over that craft for the present; that all paid up members, that is those who had paid March dues to Local No. 339, be admitted to membership in Local No. 240 upon payment of their April dues.

Unanimous action by the General Executive Board.

The matter pertaining to the Stockton strike was taken up and a general account given of same by Organizer Casey; also several communications received from that district were read pertaining to a dispute between the Ice Drivers and Laundry Drivers and the General Teamsters. It was decided that it would be best for the Ice Drivers and Laundry Drivers to amalgamate with the large local there, No. 22, General Teamsters. The General President was instructed to write a letter along those lines to both the Ice Drivers and Laundry Drivers.

Brother Casey also brought up the matter of Local No. 546, Soda and Mineral Water Drivers of San Francisco. He was instructed by the Board to take charge of the situation and given full power to act in the matter. It was the opinion of the Board that those men would be better off holding membership in Local No. 278, Retail Clerks' Union.

A general discussion arose pertaining to arrangements for our convention in San Francisco. Many matters were talked of relative to printing, hotel arrangements and transportation. Vice-President Casey related the conditions as they

exist in that city and stated what arrangements he had already made; also many other things pertaining to arrangements for our convention, and after fully discussing the situation pertaining to transportation out there, the General Executive Board decided to take no definite action at this time.

Vice-President Grace brought up the matter of the jitney bus operators. The General President and General Secretary stated that we had already chartered a number of local unions of jitney bus drivers, but that in each instance we chartered them under the name of Chauffeurs. The situation was discussed from every angle and it was decided that our organization, whenever an opportunity presented itself, endeavor to charter those men and under no circumstances to allow any other International Union to have jurisdiction over them and to render them the protection of organized labor wherever chartered and to in every way assist them, because in the opinion of the General Executive Board this was a new innovation into the traffic or transportation world which our International Union was bound to take cognizance of.

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 5 o'clock the Board adjourned, subject to the call of the General President and the General Secretary-Treasurer.

#### SOCIALISTS FINDING THEIR VOICES

There are unmistakable evidences that the Socialists of Europe, who were swept off their feet by the suddenness of the war, are recovering themselves. The recent meeting in London of Socialists from Russia, France, Belgium and England formulated resolutions that are likely to receive the endorsement of the German Socialists, when they are free to express

themselves. This statement attributes the war to the greedy colonial policies, for which all the governments were in some degree responsible; but it is pointed out that the invasion of Belgium was a disregard of treaty rights, which, if unrebuked, would mean the overthrow of liberty. But though the members of the London conference insist that the war must go on, they are determined that it shall not become a war of conquest, and demand that all peoples annexed by force, from Alsace to the Balkans, shall have the right to determine their own destinies. The resolutions protest against the oppression of the Finns, the Jews, and the Poles. The demand for a plebiscite to determine what government the various peoples shall live under is growing in volume. It is urged by the South-German Socialists, and by the Socialists of Munich. There can be little doubt that as the war goes on the Socialists of Europe will join the steadily growing body of men and women who are becoming more and more insistent that it shall be stopped, and stopped in a way to bring lasting peace.—Public.

#### CAUSE OF UNREST

Industrial unrest springs from the desire of all men to better themselves, from the feeling that there is nothing before them but the eternal, hopeless grind. The right to more life than he is getting—our present unrest is the expression of a desire for that.

The refusal of employers to deal with their men is a factor, and any employer who does that makes a terrible mistake. Another is the opposition of corporations to remedial legislation. To oppose it if good, and not presented by people who know nothing about it, has always seemed to me due to unintelligence, stupidity and greed.—Ida M. Tarbell.

## FREE SCHOOL TEXT BOOKS FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Establishment of a free school text book system in New York State will cost \$2,000,000.

The Department of Efficiency and Economy of the State of New York has been conducting investigations for the past two years as to the cost of free school text books for the public school children of the State. This report has just been completed and filed with the Legislature by Commissioner John H. Delaney, who was at one time president of Typographical Union No. 6 (Big Six) of New York City. This report is the most complete of its kind that has ever been compiled in the United States, and no doubt will be used as an authority by the federal government and many other states, which now contemplate the establishment of a free school book system. The report contains over two hundred pages of text matter and 300 pages of statistics. Every member of organized labor should try and procure a copy of this report, which no doubt can be done by writing to Hon. Charles S. Whitman, governor of the State of New York, Albany, N. Y., asking him to send you a copy of the report on the cost of free school books for the public school children of New York State.

The report contains full and authentic information as to how the question of free school text books is being handled in other states, and it is very valuable at this time for the reason that so many states are taking up the question of providing for free school books for all their school children.

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What you getting a week, girlie? Seven—Gawd! They must think you some sales to give you \$7. I'm only getting \$6—and me here nearly

a year now. Not that I mind you getting \$7, girlie—I'm glad of it. Don't think I should worry. I'm only just surprised; but that's the way they do—pay what they can get you for. You're an experienced saleslady; you look nifty, you ask \$7, they think they want you, and so you get \$7. Wait till after Christmas and they begin dropping the girls. You'll get the chance of staying on at \$6 a week. Don't that grab you? But that's the way they do.

There's Lena over at the gingham counter—see that pretty, dark girl? She's only twenty years old, but she's had a fierce time, Lena has. She lives near me—I know all about her troubles. Her father was a good tailor, but he's all wore out and can't work. Her oldest sister's sick all the time, never been well, something wrong with her back. Well, up to three weeks ago, Lena was a \$6 saleslady at that counter. Now, she's really head of stock, only they might have to pay her a lot more if they called her head. There was a man in charge, then, a nice man, too, he used to help the girls lift them heavy bolts of gingham. Fifty and sixty yards of gingham weights is some heavy. My arms were tired all the time, and my shoulders ached like toothache when I worked over there last spring.

Then that man lost his job—got the bounce—no one knows why. He was getting \$12 a week.

You want to know what happened?

Well, they put Lena in as head and they raised her \$1—gave her seven a week. Can you beat that? Lena was mad, too, take it from me, but what could she do? She just had to look pleased at the \$1 and make no fuss for fear she'd lose her job, with a family of eight living on what she and her kid sister and brother make. She's a bundler here—the kid sister—started in a month ago at \$3.50 per. Cheese it;

there's the floor walker; beat it, girlie, or we'll get in trouble.

Cash! Cash! Cash!

—Survey.

## THE SHORTER WORKDAY

(By Samuel Gompers.)

Decreasing the hours of labor is a revolutionary force. Contrast the life of the toiler who works twelve hours with that of one who works eight hours. The difference in the workday affects personal habits, standards of living and social relations.

The man who works twelve hours spends perhaps one hour going to and from work, and surely some time for meals—the rest of the day is for sleep and—shall we say—opportunity for self-improvement. Twelve long hours of work exhaust physical strength and fill the whole body with the poison of fatigue. The time for rest is sufficient only partially to counteract the fatigue and so the deadening effect of the poison is cumulative. There is neither energy, inclination, nor opportunity for the man or the woman who works twelve hours—the worker becomes only a work machine. The darkness under which he creeps to and from work hides his misery and his poverty from the world and often from himself. Daylight and a chance to see, stir up discontent necessary to arouse action.

The individual who works eight hours or less does not each day exhaust his energy. He has time for recuperation and something more. His mind is more alert and active. He is capable of more vigorous and more effective work. He goes to and from work at a time when well-dressed people are on the streets. He really has time and opportunity for making comparisons and forming desires. He has longer time to stay at home, sees other homes better furnished, and consequently

wants a better home for himself. He wants books, pictures, friends, entertainment. In short, he becomes a human being with intellectual desires and cravings. This change makes him a more valuable worker. Because his standard of living has changed he demands higher wages. Men and women will not continue indefinitely to work for wages that force them to live below their concepts of what constitutes standards of living.

This is why the shorter workday is one of the primary, fundamental demands of organized labor. The labor movement represents organized discontent with poorer conditions and definite purposeful effort to secure better. It represents ambition and ideals.

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Slavery includes all other crimes. It is the joint product of the kidnapper, the pirate, thief, murderer and hypocrite. It degrades labor and corrupts leisure.

With the idea that labor is the basis of progress goes the truth that labor must be free. The laborer must be a free man.

I would like to see this world, at least, so that a man could die and not fret that he had left his wife and children a prey to the greed, the avarice or the cruelties of mankind.

There is something wrong in a government where they who do the most have the least. There is something wrong when honesty wears a rag and rascality a robe; when the loving, the tender, eat a crust, while the infamous sit at banquets.

The laboring people should unite and should protect themselves against all idlers. You can divide mankind into classes, the laborers and the idlers, the supporters and the supported, the honest and the dishonest. Every man is dishonest who lives upon the unpaid labors of others, no matter if he occupies a throne.—Robert G. Ingersoll.

## BOOST

(By George Matthew Adams.)

There are a great many people on this earth that we don't need and that we wish we could just easily push off. Knockers, for instance. There is a difference between a knocker and a kicker. Sometimes people kick to a good purpose. But a knocker is a knocker—a pest and a destroyer. Here is the way to push the knockers into oblivion—

Boost!

Boost your town. Boost your business. Boost your friends. Boost your ideas. Boost everything that helps you. Be a booster and you can't help but be a builder.

Boost!

The man who boosts is a leader. He is always followed by a crowd. His philosophy at once becomes contagious. And he leaves a trail of boosters in his path. While those who follow him cut his name into bronze.

Boost!

When you don't know what else to do—boost. It makes little odds what you boost so long as you boost something. Once you form the habit you need have no fear for lack of things to boost. They will spring up from every direction.

Boost!

If you want to be happy—boost. If you want to get higher in the world—boost. The busiest and wisest men that live will be glad to listen to you if you are a booster. Learn the knack of boosting. It's a great knack—more important than any "pull," or "influence"—and it's bigger than money.

**Chicago.**—In an address in this city, Speaker Champ Clark, of the House of Representatives, expressed the hope that the statecraft, humanitarianism, and religion of the twentieth century will devise a scheme whereby every man and woman

shall enjoy the fruits of their own labor and prevent any one from monopolizing the toil of thousands.

"In 113 years our total wealth multiplied 125-fold, and is now rated at the enormous sum of \$140,000,-000,000," he declared. "This, if equally distributed, would give \$1,312 to every man, woman and child between the two oceans. But there is the rub, for while a few are rich beyond the dreams of avarice, many have not the wherewithal to feed and clothe themselves."

"The signs of the times indicate, however, that the hope of better conditions is not too fantastic for entertainment."

## THE LIVING WAGE

As we understand it, the objective of the trade union movement is the establishment of a living wage, and while each union legislates for itself under the trade autonomy doctrine that prevails in the American Federation of Labor, we do not understand that any unions object to any workmen earning more than the minimum wage, providing he is compensated in the same proportion of work as in the minimum wage. Trade unionism as we understand it does not hold down the individual who has greatest ability, but on the contrary, gives him a greater opportunity by preventing him from being dragged down by the less able and less fortunate.

It is a fact that cannot be disputed that many of the best organized trades have thousands of members receiving above the union rate, the union rate practically being a minimum wage or a living wage. Surely this is not a deadening of individual opportunity or a reduction of the ablest workmen to the dead level of the lowest.—Shoe Workers' Journal.

# EDITORIAL

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(By Daniel J. Tobin.)

**N**EVER allow a religious discussion to take place in the meeting of your organization, no matter under what pretext it is brought up. It is poison to the minds of men of non-sectarian organizations to introduce religion in the meetings. He who would find fault with his brother because of religious or non-religious belief is not worthy of the name of brother. The fellow who whispers something in your ear about so and so not belonging to church, or, as the case might be, belonging to a certain church, is a snake in the grass of the very worst kind. The one splendid thing that the trade union movement has done is that it has done away with religious bigotry by bringing all men of all creeds together under one fold and after throwing out the viper of religious bigotry, has established in its stead the virtue of brotherly love. After years of splendid work done by the pioneers of the labor movement we have creeping in amongst us today a few low-down curs or cut-throats, perhaps paid by the Employers' Association, who are again attempting to sow the seed of religious bigotry in our organization, but we will fight them face to face, battle with them on every opportunity and dispute every inch of ground with those criminals of trade unionism and eventually we will emerge from the conflict stronger than we were before.

A word to the wise, honest trade unionist is sufficient. We are all members of the same creed. We are all struggling for the same object —the uplift of our fellowmen; the making of better conditions for ourselves and our children; to bring together the scattered forces of the toiling masses and place them beneath the tabernacle of trade unionism and justice.

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**D**O your best each day of your life to make the world better; do your duty as a citizen and as a worker. Put earnestness, zeal and interest into everything that you do. Never mind whining about what has gone by, as it can never come back. The mistakes you have made should serve to educate you for the future and enable you to guard against similar mistakes.

Endeavor to practice economy. No matter how much you earn, save a little out of it.

Laugh as much as you possibly can, as it is the greatest medicine in the world.

Do not fill every one around you, not even your wife, with your troubles.

If sickness comes into your family meet it like a man. After it is over you will be all the better for having fought it bravely. Remember that everyone has their own share of trouble without hearing the troubles and misfortunes of others.

There is just as much happiness in the world as you want to find.

Your surroundings are just what you make them.

A grumbling laborer is a poor asset to his employer.

Enviousness and jealousy spring from a diseased mind and never get you anything except a miserable existence.

Do not talk war all day long while at your work, and do not argue politics every evening on the street, neither is it good business to be forever pestering those around you by talking about the union. A quiet whisper at the proper time will do more good than all the noisy oratory in the world.

Do not expect that union conditions are going to spring up over night in your city before you have organized.

Do not expect that the International office can make a union man of everyone in town. Remember it is up to yourself to make your union good or bad.

Do not think that because you belong to a union you can tip the world over in a day.

Always bear in mind that there are two sides to every question, and that the other fellow has as much of a right to his opinion as you have to yours.

Remember that the horse has the same feelings today that he had before the introduction of the automobile and requires just as much kindness from you.

Remember also that the more care you take of either the horse or the machine, the better man you will be for your employer and the better the results will be for both the horse and the machine.

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THE Milk Wagon Drivers of Chicago have just signed up their agreement. The wage scale is just the same as the one they have been working under. There are 2,600 members in the local union. The men average about \$22.50 per week. This year they gained, through concessions granted by their employers, two weeks' vacation with full pay. For six months of the year they pull out at 8 o'clock in the morning, and the other six months, or during the summer, they pull out any time they want to, but must be through and put up in the stable not later than 12 o'clock, noon. I attended their meeting at the North Side Turner Hall, and it was one of the largest and most enthusiastic that I ever witnessed. Over two thousand men were in attendance, mostly all young men, well dressed and of intelligent appearance, as the average age of the members of this local is not more than twenty-eight years, due to the fact that the men have to be young in order to take care of this work, which taxes every ounce of energy in the human system. Looking into their faces it was a splendid sight and surely a lesson could be learned from such a scene, because we have only to look back a few years to see where the milk wagon drivers of Chicago were working for \$35.00 a month; working all kinds of hours, and a man would be considered absolutely insane if at that time he said that the time would come when the employers would grant to every man working at this industry a two weeks' vacation with full pay. Who is it that would dispute the fact that the trade union movement is the salvation of the working classes? All other doctrines advocated to relieve and help the working masses may have their beneficial effect, but it remains with the trade union movement to bring about a condition

whereby a man may be a man and whereby an individual may be able to live the life of a human being because of the betterment of his working hours and increase obtained in wages. What has been accomplished by Local No. 753, the Milk Wagon Drivers of Chicago, may be accomplished in every city and town if we can get the same perfect organization that the milk drivers have; but remember, it requires hard plugging, night and day, to get into the union every man working at your craft, and only after you have accomplished this will your employers think of giving you decent conditions.

Success to the Milk Wagon Drivers. May they always be the guiding star of our organization to which we can point with respect and pride as to what they have accomplished, encouraging our brothers in other parts of the country by the results they have obtained for their membership, because what has been accomplished by the Chicago milk wagon drivers can be accomplished by all. There is nothing mysterious or impossible about it; but let me say to the milk drivers and others, that we must be careful; that we must be men of honor and possessing intelligence; we must endeavor to try to hold what we have obtained and we must always try to do better, understanding, of course, that there is a limit to everything, and that only patience, prudence and faithful watching over our union will hold for us the conditions we now enjoy or procure for us better conditions in the future.

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I WAS in Chicago on Tuesday night, April 6. The municipal election was on. Never before did I witness such a sight of a raving, rioting mob of practically insane people. It was impossible to walk along the streets in the down-town district. The women were just as bad as the men, tooting horns, acting boisterously in every sense of the word, and it seemed that they had lost every spark of gentleness that usually surrounds that sex. An innocent visitor in Chicago was in danger in the down-town streets of being rough-handled by the over-excited mob, all because of the fact that Mr. Thompson, the Republican, was elected and Mr. Schweitzer, the Democrat, was defeated; whereas, if you will sum up the entire situation there is not much difference in one more than in the other; both represent the capitalists and corporation interests; both of them have very little use for the toiling masses. But people fall for this kind of glamour and glare; they are carried off their feet on the spur of the moment. Of course, it was a big surprise to the politicians. One bunch of grafters will lose their soft snaps and another bunch will become the fatted pets of the new administration. There seems to be a wave sweeping throughout the country in favor of the Republican candidates. There is very little doubt but what if a national election were to take place today but that the Republicans would be overwhelmingly elected. There seems to be no appreciation whatever of the work done by Mr. Wilson and his colleagues, but it can be truthfully said that a more progressive administration has not occupied the national capitol since the days of Lincoln. In fifty or one hundred years from now the people will realize and appreciate the work done by Mr. Wilson. No one can understand the struggle he has made and, although he has not done everything that we wished, it is but just that we should give him credit for the things that he has tried to do and the things that he has done. He has, at least, kept this country out of

war when all the other nations of the earth are reeking in blood. He has, up to the present time, saved us from what might be as bad a war as that of Europe—the Mexican situation—and still we have individuals who seem to think that this does not amount to anything. The betting would be five to one today against Wilson were he up for election, and of course in our judgment it would be a safe bet because the country is normally Republican, and the cause of the Democratic victory in the last general election was due to the split in the Republican party, which seems to be healed up, or very nearly healed up, at this time. Then we have so many trimmers in the Democratic party, dangerous gentlemen—you know who they are in New York, Illinois and Indiana. Those are the people Wilson needs to look out for; enemies inside of his own camp, who are corporation Democrats of the worst kind. There are also some pretty rotten Republicans coming into existence of late. It may be that when the general election comes around the Republican party may not be so confident as they are today. Mr. Whitman, governor of New York, is demonstrating that the party he represents has not much use for the toiling masses. His administration so far is about as bitter as it possibly could be and the legislation that he has advocated is absolutely opposed to labor, so if they keep on as they are now doing in New York and Ohio, and a few other places, there may be an awakening of the masses of the people in the interest of those who are fair to labor when the next election comes around.

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**W**E have opened up a new side in the labor movement. We have started the ball rolling, establishing a new role for the men who work. We have lighted a torch that will blaze the way for workingmen who follow in our footsteps in obtaining better conditions through their labor unions by the signing of a wage scale in Chicago covering 2,600 men—milk wagon drivers—granting each man in the employment of the company on the first day of April, this year, a two weeks' vacation with full pay, the same condition to be continued in the future. As far as we know we are the first International Union that has in affiliation a local union with such a clause in their wage contract. We are the first International Union that believed our membership were entitled to the same consideration as those holding higher positions in the industrial community. It took a great deal of persuasion and argument on the part of the committee in Chicago who were handling the wage scale to convince the employers as to the necessity of granting this concession. The committee pleaded that the force and energy with which every muscle in the body was taxed, that the human form could not last for years unless conservation of human resources was adopted, so eventually the employers realized the force of the argument and granted the concession. The members of this union may now retire and bask in the sunshine for two weeks during the summer and then come back filled with vim and energy to again take up their task of supplying the inhabitants of Chicago with milk and cream. There is no question but that with the speeding up of all systems in our country today we need to preserve the human machine, and we hope and trust that other organizations of labor will look at it from this standpoint and endeavor to obtain a rest for their membership in the form of a vacation and, as the salaries of our people are so small, see to it that they get their pay while they are resting up.

# CORRESPONDENCE



## CHICAGO, ILL.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—Just a few lines to let the teamsters of Chicago know that we are still on strike against the Globe Rendering Company. On July 3, 1914, the teamsters and chauffeurs who haul the dead animals here in Chicago went on strike, and the strike is still in existence. I believe this trouble could be settled if our organization would allow the Globe Rendering Company to reduce the wages of helpers \$1.00 per day, or \$6.00 per week, but we never organized to reduce wages, so I suppose it will be a strike until some fair company gets the contract for hauling the dead animals in this city.

I am glad to say that up-to-date none of our boys have gone back to work for this company or deserted the union, and when you see a man hauling dead animals here just think how low some animals are.

Fraternally yours,

JOHN MULCONREY,  
Sec.-Treas. Local No. 735.

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## CHICAGO, ILL.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—In times of trouble we look to our friends, and in trying to figure out who our friends are starts me to realize how selfish some of us have been. No. 753 has been spoken of time and time again as being generous in donating money to weaker locals, etc., but still I claim we have been very lax in extending our co-operation. I have been a member of this local and of the I. B. T. for over seven years, but the great help

I could do the labor movement by demanding "union labeled" goods whenever I needed goods which could be secured with the label on, was not impressed on me until I attended the State convention of the Federation of Labor last fall. I believe this way of helping organized labor is not given the publicity it deserves.

I want to take every opportunity to impress all union men with the knowledge that when they buy an article without the label when they could secure the same article with it on, that by buying the unlabeled article they are hiring "scab" or "child" labor, and are really on a par with an employer of scabs.

If the tobacco workers, for instance, would picket all stores selling scab tobacco and cigars, etc., and it was necessary for our members to get police protection in order to buy cigars, tobacco, etc., put up without the label, how much do you think would be sold to our members? But as it is left to us to make our own stand to demand the label, what is the result? About 90 per cent. either smoke or chew unlabeled tobacco.

I often see the tag on "Bull Durham" bags hanging out of some of our members' pockets within a few inches of their union button. I spoke to a fellow worker only a few days ago and asked him how he could wear his button and use this "Bull" tobacco. He said he smoked it because he liked it, and added that he was a good "union man." I differed with him and showed him his mistake by asking him if it would be all right for someone to take his place in case of strike or lockout just because the one who took his place "liked to do it."

If we, one and all, would only get educated ourselves and use our influence in our homes to further the demand for the label, what a great boost it would give organized labor, and by doing this it would also put more value on our own button. Then in times of trouble we could turn to our strong locals and know we were all brothers willing to help each other.

I would like to see each local with its standing committee keep this subject before its members. Now, I hope my efforts are not wasted and will start some movement in this direction.

Fraternally yours,  
F. RAY BRYANT,  
Member Local 753.

(Editor's Note—It may be Brother Bryant has not been attending the meetings of Local 753 for the past seven years.)

### CHICAGO, ILL.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—As secretary of Milk Wagon Drivers' Local No. 753 I am instructed to extend to yourself and Brother G. W. Briggs the heartfelt thanks and appreciation of our members for your very able assistance in adjusting our wage agreement just closed, knowing as we do how many agreements expire at this season of the year and how much there is to do; also the physical condition of Brother Briggs, and that he should be in bed instead of on committee. We are indeed thankful to you both for your interest in our behalf, and through the columns of the Journal inform those who compose the teamsters movement, both organized and unorganized, that we have been successful in getting two

weeks' vacation with full pay each year for our members, all men employed April 1, 1915, regardless of length of service, to come under the terms of agreement. No one knows, only those who drive milk wagons, how difficult it is for a man who does that class of work to get off, and I will venture the statement that out of about twenty-seven hundred men that do that class of work in Chicago there will be twenty-seven hundred wives, mothers or sweethearts who will offer up a little prayer of thankfulness for the success of the committee. It will give many of those who are married their first chance to take their honeymoon trip which has so long been delayed, and a fine opportunity to those who are not married to close the bargain; and, believe me, there are some fine specimens of young manhood to select from.

I wish it were possible to reproduce a picture taken of one of our meetings when there were more than fifteen hundred in the hall. But, seriously speaking, as one of the committee I am glad to say that I believe it is among the best conditions obtained for the members of one of the crafts who have to work 365 and sometimes 366 days a year; and, while it is by no means all we think we should have, we feel it is a step in the right direction, and considering the times and the vast numbers of unemployed, we feel that we have made a place for at least a few of them, and at the same time made conditions a little more bearable for the poor fellow, who has to take so much abuse for disturbing your early morning slumber so you may have rich, fresh cream for your breakfast. Very respectfully yours,

W. A. NEER.

The Bakers' International Union intends to defy the mandates of the convention of the American Federation of Labor, so it is up to you to see to it that all bakers' unions are unseated in every central body in all cities and towns where there are drivers of bakery wagons holding membership in the Bakers' Union. The same rule or procedure applies to the Laundry Workers, as per instructions of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor and our International Executive Board.

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We have considerable trouble in correcting the addresses of our members to whom we mail the Journal. Local secretaries when sending in corrections should write plainly on one side of the paper only. When a member changes his address he should notify his local secretary-treasurer of the change and see to it that said secretary notifies headquarters. You will not receive the Journal unless you do this.

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The spring fever seems to be taking hold of many of our unions as expressed in the letters they write to this office. Every one seems to be looking for a strike. This is not as it should be. Above and beyond all, this is one year that we should steer clear of trouble. Owing to the condition in our own country, and in all other countries, we are still in bad shape industrially. We are just getting through with a hard, dull winter and business is not at all in good condition, so it behooves us to exercise our brains and steer away from the rough road.

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We have received a request from the Central Labor Union of Butte, Mont., to publish a statement in our monthly Journal that labor conditions in that city now are such that it is absolutely useless for men to go to that city seeking employment. The unions in Butte at the time this letter was written were maintaining a soup house and hundreds of unemployed were walking the streets. Brothers, tell your friends to keep away from Butte, Mont., until industrial conditions change or get better, as there are enough men out of work there now. This statement is published at the request of James Gourley, secretary of Local No. 2.

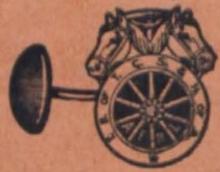
Official Magazine  
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